United Nations E/C.2/2003/2/Add.5

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
26 March 2003

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2003 regular session
5-23 May 2003

Quadrennial reports, 1996-1999 submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General*

Addendum

Contents

Chapter		*Page*
1.	Forest Alliance of British Columbia	2
2.	International Federation of Hard of Hearing People	4
3.	International Lactation Consultant Association	5
4.	Match International Centre	7
5.	National Space Society	10
6.	World Federation of Therapeutic Communities	11

* The present document was submitted late because the exchange of correspondence with non-governmental organizations to obtain clear and complete applications took longer than anticipated.

03-29862 (E) 220403

I. Forest Alliance of British Colombia

Special Consultative Status granted 1996

Introduction

The present report summarizes the Forest Alliance of British Colombia's activities and contributions to the United Nations during the period 1996 to 1999. The report begins with a general outline of the Forest Alliance's mandate. It then provides information on the Forest Alliance's participation with (a) the Economic and Social Council; (b) United Nations bodies and specialized agencies; and (c) other related activities.

Forest Alliance of British Colombia

The Forest Alliance of British Colombia is a non-profit citizens' organization, incorporated under the British Colombia Society Act, with 10,000 individual members representing a diversity of interests. Members are primarily from the province of British Colombia, but also from across Canada and around the world. The Alliance is supported primarily by the British Colombia forest industry, but also by individual and group contributions from private sources outside the industry. It is governed by a 30-member citizens' board elected by the general membership. Its mandate is to promote a sustainable balance among the environmental, social and economic values of forest resources in British Colombia.

Accredited as a non-governmental organization with special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the Forest Alliance has been actively involved in promoting forest stewardship and sustainability at both the national and international levels. Specifically, during the past four years (1996-1999), the Forest Alliance has participated in both the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). The Forest Alliance remains a strong supporter of developing a legally binding convention on forests of all types and has worked in cooperation with provincial and federal Governments, other associations and the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests to further the discussion on such a convention.

Participation in subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council

During the period 1996-1999, Forest Alliance staff attended the following sessions of the IPF/IFF:

Intergovernmental Panel on Forests Third Session, New York, 9-20 September 1996

The Forest Alliance, representing diverse interests from across British Colombia, Canada, supported discussions on a global and legally binding convention on the world's forests. The Forest Alliance provided information to IPF participants on sustainable forest management in British Colombia.

Intergovernmental Panel on Forests Fourth Session, New York, 11-21 February 1997

The Forest Alliance intervened in the discussions during this session in support of a global, legally binding treaty on forests of all types. The Forest Alliance intervention noted that the existence of a common, global understanding of

sustainable forest management (necessarily tailored to reflect distinct national, regional, and local conditions) would be of considerable utility to British Columbians, as stewards of a natural resource upon which they rely for the maintenance of their quality of life, and with respect to which they recognize a strong and valid global interest.

Intergovernmental Forum on Forests Fourth Session, New York, 31 January-11 February 2000

The Forest Alliance intervened during this session, again in support of a global, legally binding convention on forests of all types. In its statement, the Forest Alliance noted that after a decade of important dialogue, the report of the Secretary-General indicated that there was a remarkable degree of consistency on elements, or areas of priority concern; such consistency should be seen as the basis for beginning immediate negotiations, through an intergovernmental committee, on a legally binding global forest convention.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

The Forest Alliance participated in numerous meetings with staff from United Nations bodies such as the World Bank and specialized agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) during the period 1996 to 1999. During those meetings, Forest Alliance staff provided detailed information to the staff of the concerned United Nations bodies and agencies on such issues as forest certification and forest product market access information, and general updates on the state of the Canadian and British Columbia forest industry, with particular regard to developments in sustainable forest management. The Alliance has also used information gathered from United Nations staff in its own internal policy and communications formation.

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions, at the international, regional or national level

The Forest Alliance has worked closely with the Canadian National Forest Strategy Coalition to implement Canada's National Forest Strategy. This strategy addresses Canadian commitments to the forest protection framework of the United Nations, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the IPF proposals for action, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission).

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

The Forest Alliance held regular consultations with the IPF/IFF secretariat, particularly with its coordinator and head.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

The Forest Alliance publicized United Nations efforts to protect forests through its *Choices* publication in an article entitled "Beyond our Borders: BC Forests and the International Community".

2. International Federation of Hard of Hearing People

Special Consultative Status granted 1996

Background information

The International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH), founded in 1977, consists of national associations of and for hard of hearing and late-deafened people and parent and professional organizations. It supports hard of hearing people of all ages and their families and also people who suffer from tinnitus or Ménière's disease and those who have received a cocklear implant. It now has 45 member organizations in 30 countries.

IFHOH also works closely with the Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment Division of the World Health Organization, and a representative from that Division in Geneva, Switzerland, has observer status on the Federation's board of management. IFHOH is actively working to draw worldwide attention to the problems and needs of people in developing countries who are hard of hearing and late-deafened and, where possible, it is initiating or promoting services to people suffering from hearing loss in those countries. IFHOH also has an international volunteer support programme whereby hearing health-care professionals volunteer their services to specific projects in developing countries for a limited period of time. One of IFHOH's main aims is to draw attention to the fact that there are substantially more people in the world with partial hearing loss, who communicate by using hearing aids (where they are available) and who therefore do not normally need to use sign language. Accordingly, their needs are different from those of people with profound or total deafness.

For the first two years after consultancy status was granted, some communication difficulties were experienced in accrediting IFHOH delegates through the non-governmental organization office in New York because, despite notification of changes of the Federation's general secretary and its headquarters address in late 1996, correspondence continued to be sent to at least two wrong addresses, causing some papers to go astray. However, that difficulty and consequent delay in participating in United Nations activities was resolved in December 1998 with the held of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Disability, and the Federation is now accrediting its delegations through the non-governmental organization office in Geneva.

Participation in ECOSOC and other activities

In November 1999 IFHOH received its first invitation to attend an information session for non-governmental organizations at the Palais de Nations in Geneva, and it was attended by the general secretary of the Federation. He found the meeting stimulating in that a wealth of information was obtained about the United Nations, how it operates and how organizations with consultancy status can best participate

and contribute to its work. He also found it very useful to meet people from different organizations but with similar aims and objectives, particularly in the field of disability. However, since the delegate was hard of hearing and the standard translation equipment installed in the meeting room was largely unsuitable for him, he had difficulty in hearing some of the speakers. For that reason, the written material supplied during each session was very helpful.

IFHOH was invited to the following information session for non-governmental organizations in Geneva on 27 and 28 November 2000, and it was attended by two representatives, the IFHOH president and general secretary. Unfortunately, the standard translation equipment installed in the meeting room was quite inadequate on that occasion, and both of the representatives found it almost impossible to hear any of the speakers. The lack of suitable communication support for people with hearing loss meant that the representatives did not have adequate access to the meeting and could not therefore participate. The representatives discussed the problem with the non-governmental organization liaison officer in Geneva, who agreed to take up the matter with the appropriate authorities. IFHOH readily agreed to supply technical information and advice as to how the problem could be overcome. The Federation felt sure that this difficulty would be resolved in a short period of time so that its representatives (and all other delegates who are hard of hearing) could take part effectively in United Nations meetings, not only in Geneva, but worldwide.

IFHOH is interested in human rights, and its President has agreed to head up an IFHOH commission on human rights with the help and support of experts and advisers in the field from other like-minded organizations. It was expected that the new commission would begin its work during the first half of the year 2001, and therefore it was important for IFHOH to strengthen its established link with the Economic and Social Council. In the meantime, ways of overcoming the problem of communication access to United Nations meetings were being investigated, and it was expected that representatives of the Federation would soon be able to make a valuable and worthwhile contribution on the issue of human rights and other major issues of concern.

3. International Lactation Consultant Association

Special Consultative Status granted 1996

Summary of report, 1996 to 1999

The International Lactation Consultant Association (ILCA) is a non-governmental organization with consultative status with several United Nations agencies as well as a variety of non-governmental organization consortia. The number of representatives to those agencies and the scope of work undertaken by the representatives have expanded over the last few years.

Introduction

The International Lactation Consultant Association is an organization for those health-care professionals with certification from the International Board of Lactation

Consultant Examiners (IBLCE). Its mission is

- To establish guidelines for competent, ethical, evidence-based lactation consultant practice
- To foster the development of professional standards and ethical practice for lactation consultants
- To serve as a professional, authoritative and advisory body for women's and children's health
- To cooperate with organizations with similar aims and objectives and facilitate networking among lactation consultants and other professionals interested in promoting, protecting and supporting breastfeeding
- To stimulate and support research in all aspects of lactation and infant feeding

Currently ILCA serves some 4,300 members in 38 countries.

ILCA fully supports the implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes and its subsequent relevant resolutions. ILCA is in official consultative status with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Codex Alimentarius. It has applied for this status with the International Labour Organization (ILO).

International Lactation Consultant Association activities

Through its representatives at UNICEF in New York, ILCA is an active member of the children's rights caucus and the health caucus and participated in the drafting of the new Global Agenda for Children.

The ILCA representative at WHO in Geneva meets regularly with the technical officers assigned to ILCA and has devised with them a three-year work plan. She attends the World Health Organization (WHO) Executive Board meeting each January and the World Health Assembly in May. Whenever possible a second member of the ILCA Board also attends those major meetings. ILCA has presented statements on complementary feeding at the meetings and, most recently, on the global strategy on infant and young child feeding. ILCA was also represented at a WHO regional meeting in Copenhagen in September 2000.

ILCA was represented at the Codex Alimentarius committee meetings in Berlin in 1997 and 1998 and contributed table documents to the meetings in 1998 and 2000. Currently, the process of naming a permanent team for those meetings and a representative in Italy for the larger meetings in Rome is under way.

A representative from ILCA regularly attends ILO sessions. She was active with the Maternity Protection Coalition in preparing for the June 2000 meeting on the Maternity Protection Convention, issued a statement for ILCA at the meeting and is making proposals for ILCA participation in encouraging ratification of the Maternity Convention 2000 (No. 183).

In addition to its participation in activities of United Nations bodies, ILCA is a member of the Breastfeeding Promotion Consortium (BPC), the Healthy People Consortium, the United States Breastfeeding Committee and the Coalition for Improving Maternity Services (CIMS).

ILCA acquaints its membership with the work of its representatives to United Nations bodies and other consortia via a quarterly newsletter, *ILCA Globe*, and encourages members to be actively involved in issues of breastfeeding and maternity policy. The vehicles for the scientific, research and practice focus of the organization are the quarterly journal, *Journal of Human Lactation*, a variety of position papers and a recent collaborative effort with the United States Maternal and Child Health Bureau, *Evidence-Based Guidelines for Breastfeeding Management During the First Fourteen Days*.

After a time of getting acquainted with United Nations policies and procedures, ILCA representatives to the above-mentioned bodies have taken on more active roles in the collaboration. With the designation of one or more long-term representatives to those agencies, a more focused and even more fruitful collaboration can be expected over the next four years.

4. Match International Centre

Special Consultative Status granted 1996

Introduction

Match International Centre is an international non-governmental organization that supports the initiatives of women in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, South America and Canada. During the period 1996 to 1999, Match International Centre was successful in implementing a number of articles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and addressed all of the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action. The Centre's participation within the Economic and Social Council was primarily concerned with the Commission on the Status of Women, the Working Group on the Optional Protocol to the Convention and the Economic Commission for Africa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The general aims of Match International Centre are (a) to work in partnership with women's groups in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, South America and Canada towards the empowerment of women; and (b) to support women in their efforts to achieve social justice, thus enabling them to achieve the practical enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Through these means Match is enabling women to (a) shape economic, political, social and cultural structures that affect them by representing themselves in decision-making spheres; (b) provide women in crisis immediate primary support; (c) promote the work of women for social change through awareness-raising and training activities; (d) strengthen the voice of marginalized groups in community mobilization efforts; and (e) offer skills training and rights education.

During the period 1996 to 1999, Match International Centre experienced an increase in its sources of funding. In addition, it became affiliated with the following international non-governmental organizations: Mama Cash; Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF); Association pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits des Femmes Maliennes (APDF); Isis International; The Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement

of Women; The Global Fund for Women; Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC); WomenKind; and Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMWA).

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

Match International Centre participated in the following activities:

- Working group to consider the report on elements for an optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York, 11-22 March 1996. A board member represented the Centre and made an oral intervention on the importance of including group standing in the protocol for African women
- Commission on Human Rights, fifty-third session, Geneva, 10 March-18 April 1997. A board member represented the Centre
- Commission on the Status of Women, forty-first session, New York, 10-21 March 1997. A former president and board member represented the Centre
- Commission on Global Governance, New York, July 1997. A board member attended
- Commission on the Status of Women, forty-second session, New York, 2-13 March 1998. Match representatives included the president and a programme officer
- Commission on the Status of Women — in-session open-ended working group on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York, 2-13 March 1998. A board member and programme officer represented the Centre
- Commission on the Status of Women, forty-third session, New York, 1-19 March 1999. Match representatives included two programme officers
- Commission on the Status of Women — in-session open-ended working group on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York, 1-12 March 1999. A board member and programme officer represented the Centre
- Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, New York, 30 June-2 July 1999. A board member represented the Centre

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

All of the groups with which the Centre is working, indeed Match International Centre itself, address on some level the measures set out by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for the achievement of substantive equality between men and women. For example, the Centre is currently supporting work

- That supports egalitarian policies at the national level, in law and public institutions, as per article 2
- That encourages women's participation in political/public life, as per article 7
- That supports the access of women and girls to public education, as per article 10
- That recognizes the vital role which rural women play in economies and in society, and ensures their equal participation in and their benefit from development processes, as per article 14

The work of Match International Centre also encapsulates each of the 12 critical areas of concern as outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action. In particular, during the period 1996 to 1999, Match's partner, the Association pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits des Femmes Maliennes (APDF), lobbied the Government of Mali and raised public awareness of the need to implement the provisions of the Beijing Platform for Action.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

Match regularly consults United Nations officials and agencies concerning the implementation of United Nations resolutions and the mandate of the Organization.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

Match International Centre was involved in a number of other activities, including financial assistance received from or given to the United Nations, field-level collaboration and joint sponsorship, as explained below:

- 1997: Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa. A Match board member was invited as an expert to the session to plan the agenda and programme for the African Women's Centre in Addis Ababa
- 1998: United Nations Development Programme RBA gender desk, Johannesburg. A Match board member attended this meeting to plan the implementation of the gender programme. The member made a written statement on the human rights of women
- 1998: Fortieth anniversary celebration of the Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa. A Match board member was on the committee to plan the celebration
- 1998-1999: Economic Commission for Africa, regional preparatory committee for the five-year review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. A Match board member was invited to sit on the committee
- 1999: United Nations Development Fund for Women, Regional Office for Eastern Africa. Discussions were initiated between a UNIFEM field officer in Africa and Match International Centre concerning a future collaboration.

5. National Space Society

Special Consultative Status granted 1996

Introduction

The National Space Society (NSS) is an independent international, educational grass-roots organization (non-profit) dedicated to the creation of a spacefaring civilization. The Society has more than 20,000 members worldwide and 75 chapters in Australia, Canada, Ireland, Mexico and the United States. The NSS mission is to promote change in social, technical, economic and political conditions to advance the day when people will live and work in space. The NSS goals are to (a) to increase public understanding of how space exploration and development results in scientific, technical and economic benefits that improve the quality of life on Earth; (b) encourage private sector investment in space and related activities; and (c) support technical, economic and political activities that expand human presence in space.

NSS participation in United Nations activities

The NSS representatives participated at United Nations Headquarters in New York by attending meetings related to the peaceful uses of outer space, namely, the meetings of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on 13 November 1996, 6 November 1997, 27 October 1998 and 29 October 1999. The representatives then reported on United Nations space-related activities to the organization and circulated the annual reports of the Fourth Committee; the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees; the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee; and the Legal Subcommittee (1996-1999).

The National Space Society representative cooperated with the Department of Public Information (DPI) to present an annual briefing on a space-related topic for the non-governmental organization (NGO) community. The first of these took place at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 29 April 1999 on the topic of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III). At the invitation of the Office of Outer Space Affairs, the executive director also attended the Fifth International Cooperation in Space Workshop in Bermuda entitled "International Space Cooperation: Solving Global Problems" and discussed cooperative activities between the National Space Society, the United Nations and other space organizations. The NSS representative and executive director participated at the United Nations Office at Vienna by attending UNISPACE III (19-30 July 1999).

National Space Society: other related activities

The Society focused its activities in the quadrennial period on promoting public awareness of UNISPACE III. For example, the NSS representative spoke at the DPI/NGO 29 April 1999 briefing, explaining how space-related activities contributed to many non-governmental organization goals and activities and encouraging non-governmental organization attendance at UNISPACE III. The NSS representative next spoke at the Space Studies Institute conference at Princeton on 6 May 1999 on the background papers for UNISPACE III, again encouraging attendance by members of the international audience through their national

delegations. At UNISPACE III, several NSS members were part of their national delegations. The National Space Society delegation itself attended various meetings of (a) the Technical Forum (20-27 July 1999); (b) a workshop on space laws in the twenty-first century (20-23 July 1999); (c) Committees I and II (20-29 July 1999); and (d) the final session that adopted the report of UNISPACE III, including the Vienna Declaration and Action Plan (20 July 1999). On 22 July 1999, the National Space Society hosted a reception at which the noted space artist Robert McCall gave a brief talk on the role of artists in depicting our future in space and made a special presentation of original artwork to the Office of Outer Space Affairs.

6. World Federation of Therapeutic Communities (WFTC) 1996-1999

Special Consultative Status granted in 1991

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the members of the World Federation of Therapeutic Communities (WFTC) is to join together in a worldwide association whose goal is both to build identification, understanding and cooperation within the global therapeutic community movement. In addition, WFTC seeks to widen recognition and acceptance of the therapeutic community and the therapeutic community approach among health organizations and health delivery systems of international and national bodies, as well as among Governments and members of the public, including recognition of paraprofessional along with professional treatment expertise.

From 1996 to 1999 the membership of the World Federation of Therapeutic Communities continued to grow, with a significant increase in membership from countries in Latin America, Eastern Europe and Asia.

Participation in Economic and Social Council and other United Nations meetings

1996

Vienna: Commission on Narcotic Drugs

New York: Economic and Social Council

New York: General Assembly

1997

Vienna: Commission on Narcotic Drugs

New York: Economic and Social Council

New York: General Assembly

1998

Vienna: Commission on Narcotic Drugs

New York: Economic and Social Council

New York: Twentieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem

New York: General Assembly

1999

Vienna: Commission on Narcotic Drugs

New York: Economic and Social Council

New York: General Assembly

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

The World Federation played a key role in organizing the non-governmental organization special session on the world drug problem.

The World Federation seeks to enhance, through appropriate training programmes, the capabilities of local non-governmental organizations and governmental departments working in the field of drug abuse rehabilitation, programmes for street children, and AIDS prevention. The Federation also promotes collaborative action-oriented research and information exchange, organizing annual world conferences as forums for discussion and action in areas of mutual concern; fostering joint strategies and viable approaches in line with United Nations key areas of focus in developing effective country demand reduction programmes; introducing into national programmes and strategies the provisions set out in the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction; and working to achieve significant and measurable results in the field of demand reduction.

To emphasize further the effectiveness of demand reduction community programmes and raise awareness of drug and substance prevention, the WFTC organizes an annual global run, which is celebrated by twenty countries that announce the success of the youth population in meeting the challenges of drug and substance abuse through sports; this is also carried out to support the signing of the cooperation agreement in 1995 between the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee.

The 1996 global run celebration was supported and acknowledged by the President of the United States and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The eighteenth WFTC international conference was held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation in 1996. In February 1996, the Asian Federation of Therapeutic Communities (AFTC) conducted training on the successful management and maintenance of the therapeutic community. In May the AFTC hosted its second Conference, attended by representatives from the private sector and government officials from Australia, China, France, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, New Guinea, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam and the United States.

In November of 1996 the Gold Coast Drug Council and the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association hosted a three-day regional conference on working together to exchange ideas and confront issues paramount to combating drug and substance abuse.

In June 1996, the European Federation of Therapeutic Communities conducted a regional meeting in Thessalonika, Greece.

In June 1996 the Italian Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FICT) held its second national conference, attended by 1,000 delegates from 53 cities and towns across Italy.

The Latin American Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FLACT) conducted an international training session and conference hosted by the Buenos Aires national library and attended by 80 therapeutic communities from the Latin American region.

Through the efforts of the World Federation of Therapeutic Communities a federation of Indian non-government organizations for drug abuse prevention (FINGODAP) was formed.

In April 1997, the sixth Latin American Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FLACT) conference was held in Mexico City.

In February 1998, the nineteenth World Conference of the Federation was held in Cartagena, Colombia.

Other related activities

The World Federation of Therapeutic Communities publishes a quarterly news bulletin that acts as a medium for bringing World Federation of Therapeutic Communities members and international colleagues throughout 56 countries up to date on research issues, international concerns and United Nations activities.